

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

**CRIMINAL MINUTES - GENERAL**

Case No. 2:24-mj-712 (1) Date February 13, 2024

Title United States v. Ernesto Villegas

Present: The Honorable Steve Kim, U.S. Magistrate Judge

Connie Chung

n/a

Deputy Clerk

Court Reporter / Recorder

Attorneys Present for Government:

Attorneys Present for Defendant:

n/a

n/a

**Proceedings: (IN CHAMBERS) ORDER OF DETENTION**

The Court conducted a detention hearing on:

☒ The motion of the Government [18 U.S.C. § 3142(f)(1)] in a case allegedly involving: a narcotics or controlled substance offense with maximum sentence of ten or more years.

☒ The motion of the Government or on the Court's own motion [18 U.S.C. § 3142(f)(2)] in a case allegedly involving: a serious risk that the defendant will flee.

☒ The Court concludes that the Government is entitled to a rebuttable presumption that no condition or combination of conditions will reasonably assure the defendant's appearance as required and the safety of any person or the community [18 U.S.C. § 3142(e)(3)].

☒ The Court finds that the defendant ☐ has ☒ has not rebutted the presumption under 18 U.S.C. § 3142(e)(3) by sufficient evidence to the contrary.

\* \* \*

The Court finds that no condition or combination of conditions will reasonably assure:

☒ the appearance of the defendant as required (as proven by a preponderance of the evidence).

☒ the safety of any person or the community (as proven by clear and convincing evidence).

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The Court bases its findings (in addition to any made on the record at the hearing) on the following grounds:

As to risk of non-appearance:

- ☒ Lack of sufficient bail resources or financially responsible sureties
- ☐ Refusal to interview with Pretrial Services
- ☒ Self-employment that can be easily abandoned
- ☐ Previous failure to appear or violations of probation, parole, or release
- ☒ Travel to foreign countries, including recently to Mexico
- ☒ Unrebutted presumption [18 U.S.C. § 3142(e)]
- ☒ Weight of the evidence
- ☒ Length of potential incarceration if convicted
- ☐ History of alcohol or substance abuse
- ☐ Lack of significant community or family ties to this district
- ☐ Lack of legal status in the United States
- ☐ Use of alias(es) or false documents
- ☐ Prior attempt(s) to evade law enforcement
- ☐ Subject to removal or deportation after serving any period of incarceration
- ☐ Reasons set forth in PTS Report adopted by Court
- ☐

As to danger to the community:

- ☒ Nature of previous criminal convictions or prior criminal history
- ☒ Allegations in present charging document
- ☒ History of alcohol or substance use
- ☐ Already in custody on state or federal offense
- ☒ Unrebutted presumption [18 U.S.C. § 3142(e)]
- ☐ History of violence or use of weapons

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- ☒ Participation in criminal activity while on probation, parole or release
- ☒ Reasons set forth in PTS Report adopted by Court
- ☐

In reaching this decision, the Court considered: (a) the nature and circumstances of the offense(s) charged, including whether the offense is a crime of violence, a federal crime of terrorism, or involves a minor victim or a controlled substance, firearm, explosive, or destructive device; (b) the weight of evidence against the defendant; (c) the history and characteristics of the defendant; and (d) the nature and seriousness of the danger to any person or the community. [18 U.S.C. § 3142(g)] The Court also considered the evidence presented at the hearing, the arguments of counsel, and the report and recommendation of the U.S. Pretrial Services Agency.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the defendant be detained until trial.** The defendant will be committed to the custody of the Attorney General for confinement in a corrections facility separate, to the extent practicable, from persons awaiting or serving sentences or being held in custody pending appeal. The defendant will be afforded reasonable opportunity for private consultation with counsel. On order of a Court of the United States or on request of any attorney for the Government, the person in charge of the corrections facility in which defendant is confined will deliver the defendant to a United States Marshal for the purpose of an appearance in connection with a court proceeding. [18 U.S.C. § 3142(i)]